AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended): A method for producing an anisotropic film, the method comprising:

disposing a film containing a photoreactive material on a polarizing element, wherein the photoreactive material is a material that is isomerized by light irradiation or is a material that is dimerized/polymerized by light irradiation; and

irradiating the film containing the photoreactive material with light, through the polarizing element so as to provide an anisotropy to the film containing the photoreactive material.

2. (Original): The production method according to claim 1, wherein the film containing the photoreactive material is formed by coating on the polarizing element a solution or a melt of a photoreactive material and by solidifying the solution or the melt.

3. (Previously Presented): The production method according to claim 1, wherein the photoreactive material has reactivity to light having a wavelength in a range of 1 nm to 780 nm.

4. (Previously Presented): The production method according to claim 1, wherein the wavelength of the radiated light is in a range of 200 nm to 400 nm.

5. (Previously Presented): The production method according to claim 1, wherein the wavelength of the radiated light is in a range of 290 nm to 400 nm.

6. (Previously Presented): The production method according to claim 1, wherein the wavelength of the radiated light is 310 nm.

7. (Previously Presented): The production method according to claim 1, wherein the polarizing element is at least one element selected from the group consisting of a prism polarizer, a polarizing filter and a polarizer.

8. (Previously Presented): The production method according to claim 1, wherein the film containing the photoreactive material is formed directly on the polarizing element.

9. (Previously Presented): The production method according to claim 1, wherein the film containing the photoreactive material is formed on the polarizing element with interposition of a protective layer.

10. (Previously Presented): The production method according to claim 1, wherein the film containing the photoreactive material further contains a liquid crystalline compound.

11. (Original): The production method according to claim 10, wherein the liquid crystalline compound is at least one liquid crystalline compound selected from the group consisting of a liquid crystalline monomer, a liquid crystalline oligomer and a liquid crystalline polymer.

12. (Previously Presented): The production method according to claim 1, wherein the film containing the photoreactive material further contains a non–liquid crystalline polymer.

13. (Previously presented): The production method according to claim 1, wherein the photoreactive material is at least one material selected from the group consisting of a liquid crystalline monomer having a photoreactive site, a liquid crystalline oligomer having a photoreactive site, a liquid crystalline polymer having a photoreactive site, and a non-liquid crystalline polymer having a photoreactive site.

14. (Previously Presented): An anisotropic film produced by the production method according to claim 1.

15. (Original): The anisotropic film according to claim 14, which comprises a liquid crystalline alignment film.

16. (Original): The anisotropic film according to claim 14, which comprises an optically anisotropic film.

17. (Original): An optical film comprising the anisotropic film according to claim 14.

18. (Original): A liquid crystal panel comprising a liquid crystal cell and an optical film arranged on at least one surface of the liquid crystal cell, wherein the optical film is the optical film according to claim 17.

19. (Original): A liquid crystal display comprising a liquid crystal panel, wherein the liquid crystal panel is the liquid crystal panel according to claim 18.

20. (Original): An image display device comprising the optical film according to claim 17.